

Message Text

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SUBJ: ZAMBIA-CUBA JOINT COMMUNIQUE

AT THE INVITATION OF THE ZAMBIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
DR. SITEKE MWALE, CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER, MR. ISIDORO MALMIERCA,
PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO ZAMBIA FROM JUNE 22 TO 23, 1977.

AT THE END OF THIS VISIT, THE TWO SIDES ISSUED A JOINT COMMUNIQUE,
THE HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH WERE THE PRESENTATION OF A PERSONAL
MESSAGE FROM CUBAN LEADER, FIDEL CASTRO, TO ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT
KENNETH KAUNDA, AND THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE SITUATION IN THIS
PART OF THE CONTINENT. ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, RELEASED
HERE TODAY, THE TWO SIDES, HELD "A THOROUGH DISCUSSION" OF
THE PRESENT SITUATION REGARDING THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE OF SOUTH
AFRICA, ZIMBABWE (RHODESIA), AND NAMIBIA (SOUTHWEST AFRICA).

"THE CUBAN AND ZAMBIAN PARTIES," STATES THE COMMUNIQUE,
"EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE ADVANCES SO FAR ATTAINED,
AND CATEGORICALLY REAFFIRMED THEIR CONDEMNATION OF THE RACIST
AND FASCIST REGIMES OF VORSTER AND IAN SMITH, AS WELL AS OF THE
IMPERIALIST POWERS WHICH SUPPORT THEM."

THE DOCUMENT, SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE ZAMBIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN

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AFFAIRS, BY MR. AARON MILNER, WHO IS ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER,
FURTHER NOTES THAT THE TWO SIDES EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF THE
IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE FRONTLINE STATES IN RELATION TO THE
LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR DETERMINATION TO GIVE "MAXIMUM" SUPPORT TO
WHAT WAS TERMED "THE JUST STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA."

"BOTH SIDES BELIEVE THAT THE CONFERENCE CALLED BY THE UNITED

NATIONS AGAINST APARTHEID, TO BE HELD IN LAGOS ON AUGUST 22, 1977, WILL BE AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE, AS WELL AS OF NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE," SAID THE COMMUNIQUE. IT ADDED THAT THE TWO SIDES CALLED UPON THE UN TO URGE UN MEMBERS STATES TO GIVE THEIR MAXIMUM CO-OPERATION TO THIS CONFERENCE.

THE COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNED THE GOVERNMENT OF RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER, IAN SMITH, AND REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR SWAPO, THE SOUTHWEST AFRICAN PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION, IN NAMIBIA.

ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, THE CUBAN SIDE "BRIEFED" THE ZAMBIAN SIDE ABOUT THE WORK BEING DONE TO PREPARE FOR THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN HAVANA IN 1979.

ON LATIN AMERICAN ISSUES, THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT BOTH SIDES REITERATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE OF THE LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLES "TO RESCUE THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES FROM FOREIGN EXPLOITATION, TO DEFEND THEIR LEGITIMATE NATIONAL INTERESTS AND TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SOVEREIGNTY.

FURTHER, THE CUBAN MINPUTER "BRIEFED" THE ZAMBIAN SIDE ON THEIR DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE FOR THE "TOTAL LIQUIDATION OF THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE AGAINST CUBA IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES AND ALSO TO OBTAIN THE REMOVAL OF THE GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE."

BOTH DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED THEIR FULL SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR A "FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATE OF THEIR OWN". THEY ALSO CONDEMNED THE "CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION UNCLASSIFIED

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OF ARAB TERRITORIES IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE UN RESOLUTIONS. ON ECONOMIC RELATED MATTERS, THE COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT BOTH THE ZAMBIAN AND CUBAN SIDES CONDEMNED WHAT THEY CALLED THE "NEGATIVE STAND" TAKEN BY THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AT THE PARIS CONFERENCE, AND REGRETTE THE CONFERENCE'S FAILURE TO ESTABLISH THE COMMON FUND AND THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS OF THE UNCTAD INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM.
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